

6. The system of claim 5 further comprising an API module that defines characteristics of a report generated by the OLAP system and further comprising a

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macro creation means that enables creation of macros to format the report based on the content of the report through use of the API module characteristic definitions.

7. The system of claim 5 wherein macros may be applied upon receipt at the user system to manipulate the format of the spreadsheet application within the network user interface.

8. A method for enabling users connected over a network to present reports processed by an OLAP system with a spreadsheet application within a network user interface, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a report from the OLAP system;
generating a spreadsheet application for that report; and
displaying the report with the spreadsheet application within the network user interface.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the OLAP system is a relational OLAP system.

10. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of personalizing the report.

11. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of enabling a plurality of the reports to be presented concurrently.

12. The method of claim 8 further comprising the steps of:
receiving report requests and forwarding the requests to the OLAP system, wherein the report requests received comprise formatting macros based on the results of the report; and

resolving the macros to modify the presentation of the report according to the contents of the report.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the system has an API module that defines characteristics of a report generated by the OLAP system and further comprising the step of creating macros to format the report based on the content of the report through use of the API module characteristic definitions.

14. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of applying macros upon receipt at the user system to manipulate the format of the spreadsheet application within the network user interface.

15. A computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for enabling users connected over a network to a server system to present reports processed by an OLAP system with a spreadsheet application within a network user interface, the medium comprising:

computer readable program code for causing a computer to receive a report request from the OLAP system;

computer readable program code for causing a computer to generate a spreadsheet application based on the report request; and

computer readable program code for causing a computer to present the spreadsheet application within the network user interface.

16. The medium of claim 16, further comprising code for causing a computer to receive report requests and forward the requests to the OLAP system, wherein the report requests received comprise formatting macros based on the results of the report; and

code for causing a computer to resolve the macros to modify the presentation of the report according to the contents of the report

17. The medium of claim 17 further comprising code for providing an API module that defines characteristics of a report generated by the OLAP system and code for causing a computer to enable a user to create macros to format the report based on the content of the report through use of the API module characteristic definitions.

18. The medium of claim 17 further comprising code for causing a computer to apply macros at the user system upon receipt at the user system to manipulate the format of the spreadsheet application within the network user interface.

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